

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Office of the County Executive



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 30, 2012

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### **Harford County Hit Hard by Hurricane Sandy** *Widespread power outages and road closures reported*

(Bel Air, MD) - - Hurricane Sandy left its mark on Harford County during the past 24 hours with widespread power outages and more than 50 county roads closed.

The Harford County Division of Emergency Operations (EOC) issued a Connect CTY notification message to more than 6,600 businesses and residents from Havre de Grace to Joppatowne early Tuesday morning. The call advised citizens to consider voluntarily evacuating due to rising water associated with the storm surge from Hurricane Sandy. As of 6:00 a.m. today, the EOC reported water in the Havre de Grace area was two feet about normal low-tide marks.

With respect to roads, the Harford County Department of Public Works, Division of Highways reported more than 50 county roads blocked or closed as a result of storm damage to include, fallen trees, downed power lines and miscellaneous debris. Highways personnel were removed from the roads last night shortly before 9:00 p.m. due to hazardous conditions including driving rain and strong wind gusts.

"County and state roads remain hazardous due to Hurricane Sandy and therefore we urge citizens not to drive unless absolutely essential," said County Executive David R. Craig. "This has been a very serious storm and we ask patience from our citizens and the business community as we work around the clock trying to return Harford County to a more normal state," Craig said.

As of 7:00 a.m. Tuesday morning more than 43,000 people BGE customers were without power and another 1,700 Delmarva Power customers are also without electricity.

Due to widespread power outages throughout Harford County, a number of traffic signals are not working. The Division of Emergency Operations reminds motorists to treat all intersections with non-working traffic signals as a four-way stop. Drivers are reminded to come to a complete stop before safely proceeding through the intersection.

( more )

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County Executive Craig will make a decision later Tuesday morning if Harford County government will re-open on Wednesday.

“Hurricane Sandy is still causing serious problems for Harford County and the majority of the State of Maryland,” County Executive Craig said. “We ask the public for patience as we work to mitigate the damage from Hurricane Sandy as quickly as possible,” Craig remarked.

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“Preserving Harford’s past; promoting Harford’s future”